

BARSTOW LOG

SUPPORTING MCLB'S VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

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Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California

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Residents of MCLB Barstow base housing are key players in the business of fire prevention.

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Long-time base employee has been witness to many changes over time.

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Check out the Marine Corps Web site.

<http://www.usmc.mil>

Iraq, Afghan Olympians sending messages of 'freedom and hope'

President Bush cites world's action in global War on Terror for Iraq and Afghanistan's participation in this year's Olympic Games

By Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — President Bush asked Americans watching this year's Olympic Games at home to "think about the many Americans deployed overseas to defend our nation."

"In Iraq, Afghanistan and beyond, our men and women in uniform are serving with great skill and compassion," he said during his weekly radio address today. "They are making America more secure, and America is grateful to all of them, and to their families," he said. Bush told listeners that by coming together in the Games' friendly competition, "all Olympians are sending the message that freedom and hope are more powerful than terror and despair."

In Athens, athletes from more than 200 na-

tions, including Iraq and Afghanistan, are participating the 28th Olympic Games that run through Aug. 29.

Among them are 29 athletes from Iraq, a coun-

ty whose soccer team celebrated its first Olympic victory Aug. 13 by defeating Portugal, 4-2.

athletes are competing in the Olympic Games." He also noted that during opening ceremonies Aug. 13, Team USA marched alongside men and women from Afghanistan and Iraq, "nations that four years ago knew only tyranny and repression," he said.

Officials in the 2000 Olympics had banned Afghanistan because the then-ruling Taliban had refused to allow Afghan women to compete. And news reports have said Iraq's former Saddam Hussein regime had tortured Iraqi Olympians who didn't receive game medals.

"For the first time in history, people everywhere will see women competitors wearing the uniform of Afghanistan,"

Bush said. "For the first time in decades, the world will see Iraqi Olympians free from the brutal punishment of the dictator's son. 'The rise of freedom in Afghanistan and Iraq is transforming life in those nations,' the president said, 'and its effect will spread far beyond their borders.'"

"all Olympians are sending the message that freedom and hope are more powerful than terror and despair." - President George W. Bush

try whose soccer team celebrated its first Olympic victory Aug. 13 by defeating Portugal, 4-2.

The president said Iraq's participation in this year's Olympics was made possible because the "world acted with courage and moral clarity, those nations (Afghanistan and Iraq) are free, and their

MCLB customer service heats up with ICE

Compiled by
Barstow Log Staff

As predicted, MCLB Barstow has gone into the ICE age.

MCLB Barstow now has a system in place that allows its customers quick access to the various base organizations providing service and support, and allows managers an avenue to see how well they are meeting the mission.

The Interactive Customer Evaluation system, commonly referred to as "ICE," is a Web-based system that allows customers to quickly complete an electronic comment card and send it to the manager of the service they recently utilized, said Anthony "Iceman" Rose, ICE system administrator in the MCLB Barstow Business Performance Office.

The comment card consists of a series of questions and answers customers select with their computer mouse to inform service providers how well their services

were rendered.

The program started in Europe as a method to solve customer satisfaction issues, said Rose.

Because of its success, ICE has evolved into a Department of Defense-wide initiative that continues to gain new sites on a constant basis.

There are many advantages to the program for both customers and managers.

One advantage, said Rose, is customers are able to directly communicate with service providers. If they want to make specific comments on the service or have an idea to make the service better, they may add the comments or ideas to the comment card. Submissions can be either anonymous or include names if customers wish to request and receive a response from the service manager, said Rose.

The system can be accessed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and since it is a DOD-wide sys-

tem, customers can even rate the services received from other installations.

ICE also provides information such as phone numbers, hours of operation, and allows people to check for special events that may be taking place at the service provider's location.

Another strong advantage is managers can get a "real-time" look at what their patrons think about their services.

The time spent consolidating, coordinating, and averaging numbers on survey forms is gone, Rose said.

Reports generated by the system allow tracking of the quality of service, comparison of services against similar entities throughout DOD, and lets service providers see how changes incorporated affect customer's quality perceptions.

The system is very easy to use.

All that is required is a computer with Web access and a small

amount of time. Go to <http://ice.disa.mil> and click on "Marine Corps CONUS," then click on MCLB Barstow and find your service provider from the different categories listed. An ICE link can be found on both the base intranet and the base Web site via clicking on the ICE icon. The following service providers are currently in the system:

- Fleet Support Division Retail: Bldg. 401

- Fleet Support Division Wholesale: Bldg. 406

- PMO Operations Bldg 176

- PMO Criminal Investigations Division Bldg 236

- Physical Security Section Bldg 236

- Fire and Emergency Services Bldg 236

- Fire Chief Bldg. 236

- Fire Department Admin Bldg 236

- Operations (Fire Department)

See ICE Page 6

MCLB housing residents critical in fire prevention

By Lance Cpl. Jenna Lassandrello
Combat Correspondent

With the MCLB Barstow base housing fire inspections scheduled to begin Aug. 30 and Fire Prevention Month right around the corner, fire safety should be on everyone's mind. But according to the Fire and Emergency Services Division Chief Fire Inspector, Terry Jenkins, fire prevention and safety should be on the resident's mind constantly.

While annual inspections of the housing is a major combatant against fire hazards, homeowners should be doing fire safety checks all year long, said Jenkins.

"Each year during the inspections we find hazards that could potentially cause a fire, and if homeowners conduct checks on a regular basis, hazards can be caught ahead of time before it becomes a problem," Jenkins said. Residents know their house best and if something doesn't look or feel right, getting it checked out can prevent a fire, which is worth any kind of hassle, said Jenkins. Some of the repetitive hazards are hot water heaters, the dryers, and the stoves. All of these are part of the inspection along with others such as smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, electrical systems and the proper storage of flammable liquids.

Some preventative measures that residents can take are:

- Keep appliances updated and maintained
- Don't overuse electrical outlets
- Keep the hot water heater closets clean and free of debris
- Have professionals install new appliances

In fire prevention, having an escape plan in case of fire is vital, said Jenkins. "Knowing your escape routes and practicing them can save your life," he said.

Practicing the routes may seem unnecessary, but panic can set in and

thinking can be unclear. If the routes are practiced everyone, especially children, will know what they need to do, said Jenkins.

"Practicing can also ensure that escape routes are realistic and useable," he said.

While a family is trying to escape a fire burning their home is a bad time to discover that a window is painted shut, explained Jenkins. It is an important step to alert the fire department of all fires and suspicions of fires.

"People can be hesitant to call 911, but even if there is just a suspicion it is worth reporting," Jenkins said.

"Don't forget," said Jenkins, "it is always better to be safe than sorry."

A greater sense of spirituality

By Lt. Cmdr. Randel Livingood
Base Chaplain



Sometimes in life we pause and ask ourselves some pretty deep questions.

It seems like when we have time on our hands are when those questions seem to come to our minds the most. We start wondering about little things like the meaning of life and what is our role in the greater world.

Questions like, what will our impact be on society and will people remember me when I am gone; all seem to crop up at times like that. Generally, we sort of hide those thoughts away because they seem too large for us to answer or they are too troubling to think about right

then.

The fact is that we all have questions and that many times our questions go unanswered. Sometimes that is frustrating because we really want to know.

I think questions serve another purpose and often point us in a direction that we would otherwise not see.

Questions cause us to be a bit more introspective in a society that generally only reflects outward and is at times vacuous.

Questions are also the things that encourage us to seek the deeper things in life. Questions enable us to learn more about ourselves and those around us, and to generally be less shallow.

There is a challenge in seeking answers; that challenge is that sometimes questions lead us to the realization that there is something greater than ourselves and completely outside ourselves.

See **CHAPLAIN** Page 7

Just doing my job ...



Photo by Pfc. Nich R. Babb

Josielyn Williams, a cook for the Family Restaurant at MCLB Barstow, prepares a nutrition-packed breakfast meal for a customer. Williams loves to cook and even cooks at home for her family when she is not working. She has been cooking for the base for two and a half years.

Chapel Services

Protestant Sunday 8:30 a.m.
For more information, call 577-6849.

Religious Events

Morning prayer, Building 15 ASD 8:30 a.m. Tuesdays.
Seekers Bible Study, Building 126, Religious Ministries Center 5 p.m. Wednesdays.

Lunch time episcopal mass, Building 128, Blessed Sacrament Chapel 11 a.m. Thursdays.

Religious Services off base

Catholic Mass: St. Joseph's Catholic Church 505 E. Mt. View Barstow Sundays, 7:30 a.m. Misa En Espanol 9:30, 10:30 a.m. English	or: St. Philip Neri Catholic Church 25333 Third Street Lenwood Sundays, 9:30 a.m. English	Jewish Services Congregation Bamidar Shel Ha-Am 130 Eastgate Road Barstow Saturdays 10 a.m.
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News Briefs

“News Briefs” is designed to disseminate information to the MCLB Barstow community. Submissions should include a point of contact and phone number, and be received by noon Thursdays for the next week’s issue. Submit news briefs via e-mail to editor@barstow.usmc.mil.

Lunch Menu

Unless otherwise indicated lunch menus for the Family Restaurant and Cactus Cafe are the same. Lunch menus are subject to change.

Today – Breaded pork chops, mashed potatoes and gravy.

Friday – Breaded Hoki fish/macaroni and cheese.

Monday – Salisbury steak with mashed potatoes and gravy.

Tuesday – BBQ chicken breast with baked beans.

Wednesday – Beef Lasagna with Italian Vegetable.

Active duty military \$3.25, all others, including civilians \$4.75.

Lunch entrees include roll/butter, vegetable, coffee, tea or soft drink.

Lunch hours: Family Restaurant: 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cactus Cafe: 11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

For more information, call 577-6428.

Breakfast

Breakfast at the Family Restaurant is from 5:30 to 7:30 a.m. and at the Cactus Cafe from 5:30 to 6:30 a.m. Prices: Active duty military \$1.60, all others \$3.25.

Family Night Dining

Tonight – Italian Night! Chicken Alfredo, spaghetti, lasagna, Italian vegetable, tossed green salad, dessert and fountain drink of your choice.

Family Night dinners are served at the Family Restaurant every Thursday from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Prices are the same for military and civilian: \$6 adults, \$4 children (5 to 11 years).

Children under 5 years dine free.

or see a fire aboard the base, notify the Fire Department via 911 or activate one of the fire alarm stations immediately.

This requirement is based on Base Order P11320.5F Base Fire Regulation Paragraph 3000 and the National Fire Protection Association Standard 1 Uniform Fire Code 10.7.1.1.

Even if you do extinguish a fire, the Fire Department has to make certain the fire is totally extinguished and perform an investigation of the origin and cause of the fire.

Remember the saying, “All big fires start small.”

For more information, contact Terry Jenkins, assistant fire chief of fire prevention, Fire and Emergency Services Division, at 577-6966.

Special Olympics

The Barstow Special Olympics is looking for athletes, coaches and volunteers for all aspects of the Special Olympics.

Athletes with mental retardation must be above the age of 8 and enjoy learning new skills through sports and making friends.

On Sept. 18 there will be a Special Olympics “World’s largest” Truck Convoy. Volunteers are needed to help with serving food and guiding trucks.

To help out and enjoy a great sense of accomplishment, or to find out more information for athletes, coaches and volunteers contact Susan or Frank at 255-2787 or 256-1690.

School Starting

Students in the Barstow School district will be going back to school on Wednesday. All elementary schools and Hinkley Elementary/Middle School will have early release on Wednesdays this year beginning Wednesday.

Barstow Intermediate School and Barstow Junior High School will have their early release days on Thursdays beginning Sept. 2.

The elementary students will be released between 1 and 1:10 p.m., Barstow Junior High students will be released at 12:07 p.m. and the Barstow Intermediate students will be released at 1:07 p.m.

For more information, call the Barstow Unified School District at (760)255-6000.

Mystery Shopping

A North Carolina-based company that conducts mystery shopping services is seeking “a

*101 things you should **never ask a Marine** to do*

By E. Temple



Never ask a Marine to attend a formal dinner.

few good spies.”

If you have a military ID and base access, and are interested in conducting mystery shops at places such as the PX, service station, 7-day store, etc., please register to become an independent contractor for Confero.

These assignments will be on going for at least six months.

There will be multiple shops each month.

There are no fees or cost to become a mystery shopper.

The payment to the independent contractor or fee for conducting the mystery shops range from \$15-\$25.

Some assignments require small purchases or returns for verification of visits.

If you would be interested or know of anyone who may be interested in conducting mystery shops at places such as the PX, service station or 7-Day Store,

please visit our Web site for more information about mystery shopping for Confero at <http://www.conferoinc.com>.

Barstow College Learning Resource Center

Barstow College will host a grand opening of its newly constructed Learning Resource Center on Aug. 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The community is invited to attend this event and tour the new facility.

A ribbon cutting will take place at 10 a.m. Tours will immediately follow the ribbon cutting and continue through 2 p.m.

The result of a \$5.6 million capital construction project, the Learning Resource Center marries the best of technology and information resources to create a high-tech learning environment for students and faculty at the college.

The 28,000 square-foot facility is home to a 56-station computer commons, multi-purpose technology classroom, multimedia curriculum development lab, videoconference meeting room, tutorial services, and a state-of-the-art library. A new wireless network allows students and faculty to stay connected to the campus network and the Internet while they roam throughout the Learning Resource Center free of cables and wires.

Barstow College is located at 2700 Barstow Rd. in Barstow, Calif. For more information, contact Sue Jones at (760) 252-2411, ext. 7350

WAWF Training

Due to Wide Area Work Flow’s online training being inaccessible, training for WAWF

See BRIEFS Page 7

Job Watch

<u>Annc No.</u>	<u>Title/Series/Grade</u>	<u>Open</u>	<u>Close</u>	<u>1st Cutoff</u>	<u>Location</u>
SW0525	Accounting Technician	Resumix	08-19-04.	n/a	MCLB Barstow
SW0081	Lead Firefighter	Resumix	08-19-04.	n/a	MCLB Barstow
	GS0081-07 or GS-08				

These two listings are open to current permanent MCLB Barstow employees only. Applicants interested in the above positions should submit resumes online at the following Web sites: <http://www.donhr.navy.mil> or <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>.

For information regarding Open Continuous announcements point your browser to <http://www.donhr.navy.mil>. For more information concerning job announcements visit the Self-Service Center, Building 236, Mondays through Fridays from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. or call the Human Resources Office at 577-6357/6279/6481.

This is not an official list. Please see the Web sites listed for a complete list.

Gunny's Picks preview takes a peek at the NFC

Superbowl pick blessing goes to Philly; Carolina still a threat

By Rob L. Jackson
BARSTOW LOG staff

Finally, the National Football League's 2004 – 2005 season is here and I for one am excited and intrigued about this new season.

Throughout the summer months football fans have witnessed numerous firings, hiring and big dollars put out for players and coaches in the quest for a championship.

Perhaps the biggest news of all was **Redskins** owner Dan Snyder luring Hall of Fame Coach Joe Gibbs back to the team he won three Super Bowls with.

So since I've started with the NFC East, I may as well give my predictions of how this once dominant conference will do this year.

No offense to the person who signs my check every payday, but I wish I worked for a guy who was as free with his money as Dan Snyder but if anyone should know that money

doesn't buy victories he should be the one. Just look at his past spending sprees and what did it get him? Nothing, zilch, nada.

Washington fans are looking for a return to the glory days with Coach Gibbs but should not expect anything at least two years.

If history repeats itself, as I am constantly reminded, look for no more than a .500 season just like he did in his first season with the Skins.

Gibbs will have to contend with his old nemesis Bill Parcells, one-time **Giants** coach now with archrival **Dallas Cowboys**, which has never been an easy feat.

The problem for both teams right now is who is going to be their starting quarterback on opening day.

The Skins picked up Mark Brunell in the off-season but still have Patrick Ramsey, who was

the starter last year. The Cowboys dumped Quincy Carter, for some clouded reason, and have decided to go with 40-year-old

me how you could sign an unproven quarterback for a record \$20 million signing bonus without having seen him produce in the NFL?

This is what the **New York Giants** did by signing Eli Manning, not only that the organization traded up to get him. Personally I think it was a mistake.

The Giants should have signed Phillip Rivers, who I think is a much better quarterback, and kept the other draft picks they gave up. So, after ranting about the NFC East the **order of finish** will be: Philly (last chance), Dallas, Washington and the Giants.

In the NFC North (the Black and Blue Division) the **Packers, Vikings, Lions and Bears** (oh my!) have no love for each other so right away there's no love for Lovie Smith, the new coach of Da' Bears. Defensively, Lovie inherits a good group that can be

better; offensively they're just that, offensive.

The only real weapons on offense that the team has are RB Anthony "A-Train" Thomas and WR Marty Booker (correction: consistent weapons). All they need is for this year's starting QB Rex Grossman to step up and be the on field general that management and the coaching staff hopes he will be.

As for the **Packers**, as long as they have Brett Farve as the QB you can never count them out. Need I say more?

The **Vikings** are an interesting and intriguing team.

They have one of the best quarterbacks in the league in Dante Culpepper as well as the best wide out in Randy Moss, yet every year they end up with the same results; hot to start and quick to fade in the end when it counts the most.

Maybe one day they'll figure out how to play a full 16-game

Would somebody please tell me how you could sign an unproven quarterback for a record \$20 million signing bonus without having seen him produce in the NFL?

Vinnie Testaverde while Drew Henson waits for his shot.

Speaking of QBs, it is already established that Donovan McNabb is set for the **Philadelphia Eagles** and to help get them beyond the NFC title game the team signed Terrell Owens as another offensive weapon and Jevon "The Freak" Kearse on the defensive side of the ball; I hope it was worth it.

Would somebody please tell

See **PREVIEW** Page 10

MCLB golf instructor shares history with base

By Pfc. Nich R. Babb

Combat Correspondent

Standing with his feet shoulder width apart and his knees slightly bent, Oscar Valenzuela, the Tees and Trees Golf Instructor who just celebrated his 74th birthday, focuses on his golf ball, which he is ready to hit and send soaring into the wild, blue yonder. Even though he has played golf all of his life, being the base golf instructor has not always been his job for MCLB Barstow.

Valenzuela was born on July 26, 1930, and grew up in the southeastern bayside town of Corpus Christi, Texas, he said. When he was a teenager he worked at the Corpus Christi Country Club, doing jobs, which included parking big old-time Buicks, selling bowls of ice and caddying for the members. Some of the members he would caddy for were officers in the United States Navy, Valenzuela said.

When he was 16, he started thinking about the Marine Corps, and on his 17th birthday had his mom sign his contract to allow him to enlist in the Corps, he said.

Being a squared-away leatherneck appealed to Valenzuela, he said, but being able to travel the world and overcome challenges that were set before him are among some of his fondest memories from his term.

After completing basic training in 1947 at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Valenzuela went to Motor Transport School for his military occupational specialty and then to Camp Witeck, Guam his first duty station, which was still segregated, he said.

While in Guam he worked at the ice plant, he said. Even though the war was over and the Marines were trying to repair

the island of Guam, they still had to maintain a constant level of cautiousness in case there was a strike against them. Also, Marines had to be very aware of their surroundings in Guam, because most of the people were still recovering from the “aftershock” caused by World War II, Valenzuela said.

Despite being segregated and in a potentially dangerous place, he very much enjoyed his time in Guam, Valenzuela said.

In 1949 after his first tour, Valenzuela was ordered to Marine Corps Logistics Base in Barstow, he said. When he got here, the base was big enough to rate a bakery and a chow hall located across the street from the bakery.

There was also a Marine by the name of Chief Warrant Officer Gardner here, who worked for the communications division, but was highly educated in engineering. He had chosen a plot of land that would someday become a golf course and Valenzuela’s pride and joy.

The golf course, which Gardner had laid out, was the result of the commanding officer’s wishes, Valenzuela said. Gardner only made it nine holes, because rainstorms would sometimes flood the riverbed on the north side of the course. Believe it or not, rainstorms did find their way to Barstow at one point in time, according to Valenzuela.

Even after Valenzuela’s term of enlistment concluded in 1951, he stayed with MCLB. He married a local girl named Maria, and was content with the town of Barstow.

To support his family, he worked as a dispatcher for the motor transport division for 17 years, and then transferred to be a driver for the fire department, Valenzuela said. He then



Photo by Lance Cpl. Ashley Warden

Oscar Valenzuela, MCLB Barstow’s certified golf instructor, has dwelled and worked locally for more than 55 years.

See OSCAR Page 7

'Mail Call' host raises money for military charities

By **Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample**
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Though he's earned fame and fortune portraying rough and tough military figures on television and in feature films, R. Lee Erme y has a soft spot when it comes to caring for troops.

Erme y, popular host of the History Channel's "Mail Call," in which he answers questions about military technology, has put together the R. Lee Emery Celebrity Experience, a three-day event to raise money for servicemembers and their families.

The event benefits the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society and the Young Marines Association, for which Erme y is a spokesman.

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society provides financial, educational, and other assistance to members of the Naval Services of the United States, eligible family members and survivors when in need.

The Young Marines is a youth education and service program for boys and girls, ages 8 through completion of high school, which focuses on character building, leadership, and promotes a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

Erme y said the fundraiser begins at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., Sept. 10 with more than 20 of his Hollywood friends

putting on a free six hour show for troops there. "They're who I call the Hollywood 'good guys,'" he said. "They show up at all the charity events I do," he said in a Pentagon Channel interview last week.

Erme y, who starred in "Full Metal Jacket" (1987), "The Boys of Company C" (1978) and "Apocalypse Now" (1979), said the show will feature music, entertainment and "a lot of comedy."

"A lot of the guys that do comedy seem to give of themselves when it comes to charity," he said. "They're good guys."

The show will be held the Little Hall Theater at Quantico. The event is free to all military personnel and family members with government ID.

On Sept. 11, Erme y, along with several of his Hollywood friends, will take part in a Celebrity-Amateur Golf Tournament at the Renditions Golf Course in Davidsonville, Md. Tickets for the event are \$5,000 each.

The next evening, Sept. 12, will be the "Gunny's Ball and Auction." The black-tie affair will be held at the Madison Hotel in downtown Washington. Tickets are \$150, with discounts available for military personnel.

A second charity golf tournament is planned Sept. 12 at the Renditions course. Tickets for that event are \$10 for adults and

\$5 for teenagers and seniors. Children under 12 are admitted free.

Erme y said part of the reason he decided to start the event over the Sept. 11 weekend was because that date commemorates the "hugest disaster that has ever hit America."

"When we were thinking about date, this is one that sticks in everyone's mind," he said. "Nobody can forget about what happened to us on Sept. 11 (2001)."

He said the very servicemembers and families that he is trying to help are away from their families in Afghanistan and Iraq because on one reason: 9/11.

Erme y said he wants to do whatever he can to make life easier for the troops fighting the war and their families. "If their families are having financial problems back here, that's got to be weighing pretty heavy on a troop's mind that's out there actually hands-on fighting the war," he said. "So we need to take that worry away . . . and we need to look out after these families."

He said he hopes to make the fundraiser an annual event. "It's going to be every year in September," he said. The charity event is just one of the ways Erme y has given back to the military. Born in Emporia, Kan., on March 24, 1944, Erme y joined the Marine Corps in 1961 when he was 17, and served nearly two tours in Vietnam.

Injuries cut short his military career, and in 1972 he was medically retired at the rank of staff sergeant. But the Marine Corps later promoted Erme y to the honorary rank of gunnery sergeant, he said.

Still, Erme y said, he never retired from the service, and he is just as active today with the Corps as he's ever been.

"I tell people I've been in the Marine Corps for 44 years," he said of his continued involvement with the service.

"I don't put 'RET' (Retired) behind Gunnery Sgt. R. Lee Erme y," he explained. "I put: Gunnery Sgt. R. Lee Erme y (Very Active)."

Erme y said he attends five or six Marine Corps Birthday Balls each year as the guest speaker or guest of honor.

In December, Erme y's attention turns to "Toys For Tots," a Marine Corps Reserve charity he actively supports. Erme y also finds time to spend with troops in the field, he said.

Last year, he took his "Mail Call" show to Iraq. After shooting the show, he sent his production crew home. He then spent the next seven days staying with his fellow Marines in the field. He said he traveled by helicopter to 34 different locations and talked to as many Marines as he could.

"I try to stay as involved as I can with the troops, and I love going into the field with the troops," he said.

ICE from Page 1

- Bldg 18
- Fire Prevention Bldg 18/437/236
 - Training (Fire Department) Bldg 236
 - Environmental Division Whse 3
 - Installation Division B l d g 322
 - Housing Branch B l d g 362
 - Budget Office Bldg 15
 - Civilian Pay Unit Bldg 15
 - Resource Evaluation & Analysis Office Bldg 15
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 - Official Communications Bldg 290
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 - Adjutant Divison Bldg 15
 - Military Personnel Division Bldg 15
 - Pass and Identification Section Bldg T117
 - Training Audiovisual Support Center Bldg 204
 - MCCS Human Resources Division Bldg 319
 - MCCS Semper Fit Division Bldg 44
 - Business Performance Office Bldg 15
 - TAD, PCS, Gov't Charge Card and Military Pay Bldg 15

Editor's Note:

For more information on the Interactive Customer Evaluation service, contact Anthony "ICEman" Rose, ICE program analyst, MCLB Barstow Business Performance Office, or visit the ICE Web site at <http://ice.disa.mil> and click on the "Marine Corps CONUS" link, or MCLB Barstow's Web site at <http://www.bam.usmc.mil>.

Patrons asked not to confuse MCLB NMCRS Thrift Shop for garbage dump

For years the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Thrift Shop on MCLB Barstow has been providing quality used goods at reduced cost for its Navy and Marine Corps families.

The money raised from the sale of the donated items has been used to also support families in need.

Every year the NMCRS continues to ask for support through its annual fund drive to continue serving the Navy-Marine Corps family.

Volunteers at MCLB Barstow's Thrift Shop are asking for assistance from those who donate goods to the shop.

If you have any goods to donate ensure the items being donated are good useable items and none that would be considered unusable or trash, similar to the item pictured.

The Thrift Shop volunteers are asking that patrons not dump their trash, like broken chairs or old washing machines, at the shop.

For one these items are too heavy and secondly they ask that you take items that cannot be used by anyone to the city dump/landfill.



Above: A three-legged chair, suitable only for a garbage can, is not suitable for honest patrons of the Navy/Marine Corps Relief Thrift Shop.

CHAPLAIN from Page 2

It is often common to believe that we are in charge of our own destiny and that can easily be believed because we generally get to make decisions that effect our lives.

Sometimes we make good decisions and other times we make bad decisions and we live with the consequences. I think that if we were able to ask ourselves more questions we might be able to make better decisions. If we were able to be more introspective, to look inside ourselves, we would even get to know ourselves better. There is such a tremendous amount of knowledge within each of us, yet we hardly ever tap into it. We do not tap into it because most of the time we are reflecting out instead of in. Maybe we could learn to pause a little more often and do some thinking, but instead of thinking about the overwhelming issues

maybe we could focus on some issues of less gravity. I believe that this is one of the ways in which God moves us toward a greater sense of spirituality. These moments of clarity and thought move us toward a greater understanding of ourselves and allow us to see that we are so much more than just “average.” These times of thought allow us to see what a wonderful creation we are and that everyone has something of that creation in them. So, take the time to ask yourselves questions and give yourself the liberty of waiting on the answer. The questions of life are not answered in the time it takes to watch a sitcom, rather they must be pondered and weighed and given a chance to germinate. So don’t be afraid of those questions, embrace them and let them lead you to a greater sense of yourself in creation.

Peace,
Fr Randel

BRIEFS from Page 3

is now available via CD-Rom at the Contracting and Purchasing Office, Warehouse 8, door 14A.

Phone Corinne Dorado at 577-6389 to set up a time to complete the training.

Maintenance Complaint line

To report complaints about repair and maintenance work on real property (base structures excluding base housing), call 577-5159.

DEFY

The second phase of the Drug Education for Youth program is scheduled to begin Saturday with a “Collect Can Cookout.” Students will need to bring non-perishable food items to exchange for a lunch consisting of a hamburger or hotdog, chips and a soda. The event will be held at the base chapel, times are yet to be determined. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Lafawn Skipper at 577-6849.

OSCAR from Page 5

completed a management skills class to become an assistant crew chief.

Throughout his time working here, Valenzuela had always been asked to come out and play golf with his commanders and fellow Marines, he said.

One such person who he would play golf with was a Marine named Robert Bissit, Valenzuela said. Bissit was a Master Sergeant at the time, and a member of the Professional Golf Association. Valenzuela would play golf with him, and even caddy for him in golf tournaments, he said.

After 39 years and nine months of faithful service working for the Marine Corps, as an active duty Marine and firefighter, Valenzuela retired. Even though he was retired, he went back to school so he could qualify for his golf instructor certification.

In 1997 Valenzuela finished all of his qualifications, and became a registered golf instructor.

In addition to teaching the game

of golf to the participants of Tees and Trees Golf Course, Valenzuela is an active participant in his church. He is in charge of the upkeep of the room where the robes, chalices and other holy equipment are stored, and he is the coordinator for the church’s ushers, he added.

Valenzuela said he loves every minute he works with the United States Marine Corps. He has reached a great point in his life, and said he is not planning on changing anything anytime soon.

“I am just going to live the way I am living, and just keep up what I am doing in church, and be happy.” Valenzuela said.

Valenzuela said that if you have a question about the base he could most likely answer it.

Those who have come into contact with Valenzuela have seen that he is a perfect example of the saying “Once a Marine, always a Marine.”

Go and meet him some time, because he would love to tell you all he knows, he said.

22nd MEU Operation RIO B

By Gunnery Sgt. Kieth A. Milks
22nd MEU (SOC) Public Affairs

CENTRAL COMMAND AREA OF OPERATIONS (Aug. 16, 2004) — Operation RIO BRAVO commenced on May 11, and saw the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) continue to prosecute its offensive campaign in south-central Afghanistan.

RIO BRAVO involved the bulk of Battalion Landing Team 1st Bn., 6th Marines, the MEU's ground combat element, who pushed its three rifle and one weapons companies deep into regions that had long harbored Taliban and other anti-government

factions.

While BLT 1/6's Alpha and Charlie Company conducted cordon and search operations on a string of villages looking for enemy fighters and weapons caches, Bravo Company set up blocking positions on a mountain where the enemy was likely to seek refuge. Elsewhere in the region, elements of Weapons Company used their Humvees and light armored vehicles to conduct independent cordon and searches and establish vehicle check points.

Throughout the operation, helicopters from Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 266 (Reinforced) and ground assault convoys from MEU Service Support Group 22 keep



Photo by Cpl. Robert A. Sturkie

Marines from Charlie Co., Battalion Landing Team 1st Bn., 6th Marines, head toward a waiting CH-53E Super Stallion from Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 266 (Reinforced) during Operation RIO BRAVO in Afghanistan's Oruzgan province. BLT 1/6 and HMM-266 (Rein) are assigned to the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable).



Photo by Cpl. Robert A. Sturkie

Above: Hospitalman Jonathan Foster, of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, a corpsman with Weapons Co., Battalion Landing Team 1st Bn., 6th Marines, provides security for a group of Marines searching a compound in a village in Afghanistan's Oruzgan province during Operation RIO BRAVO. BLT 1/6 is the ground combat element of the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable).

Left: Marines from Alpha Co., Battalion Landing Team 1st Bn., 6th Marines, search suspected Taliban supporters during a village search in Afghanistan's Oruzgan province during Operation RIO BRAVO. BLT 1/6 is the ground combat element of the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable).

Photo by Cpl. Jemssy Alvarez Jr.



A combat engineer from the ground combat element (Special Operations Capable), search for hidden weapons in Afghanistan's Oruzgan province.

THE CORPS

BRAVO recap

the units in the field supplied with food, water, and ammunition.

RIO BRAVO lasted nine days and yielded one enemy fighter killed in action and a substantial stockpile of arms, ammunition, and ordnance. More importantly, was the initiation of dozens of civil affairs projects that sought to generate good will between the coalition forces and isolated Afghan villagers.

This is the fifth installment in a 12-part series chronicling the 22nd MEU (SOC)'s operations and missions in Afghanistan.

For more information on the 22nd MEU (SOC)'s role in Operation Enduring Freedom, visit the unit's Web site at <http://www.22meu.usmc.mil>.



Photo by Gunnery Sgt. Keith A. Milks

Battalion Landing Team 1st Bn., 6th Marines, part of the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) is shown using a string to lower a light into a well in his caches during Operation RIO BRAVO in Oruzgan province.

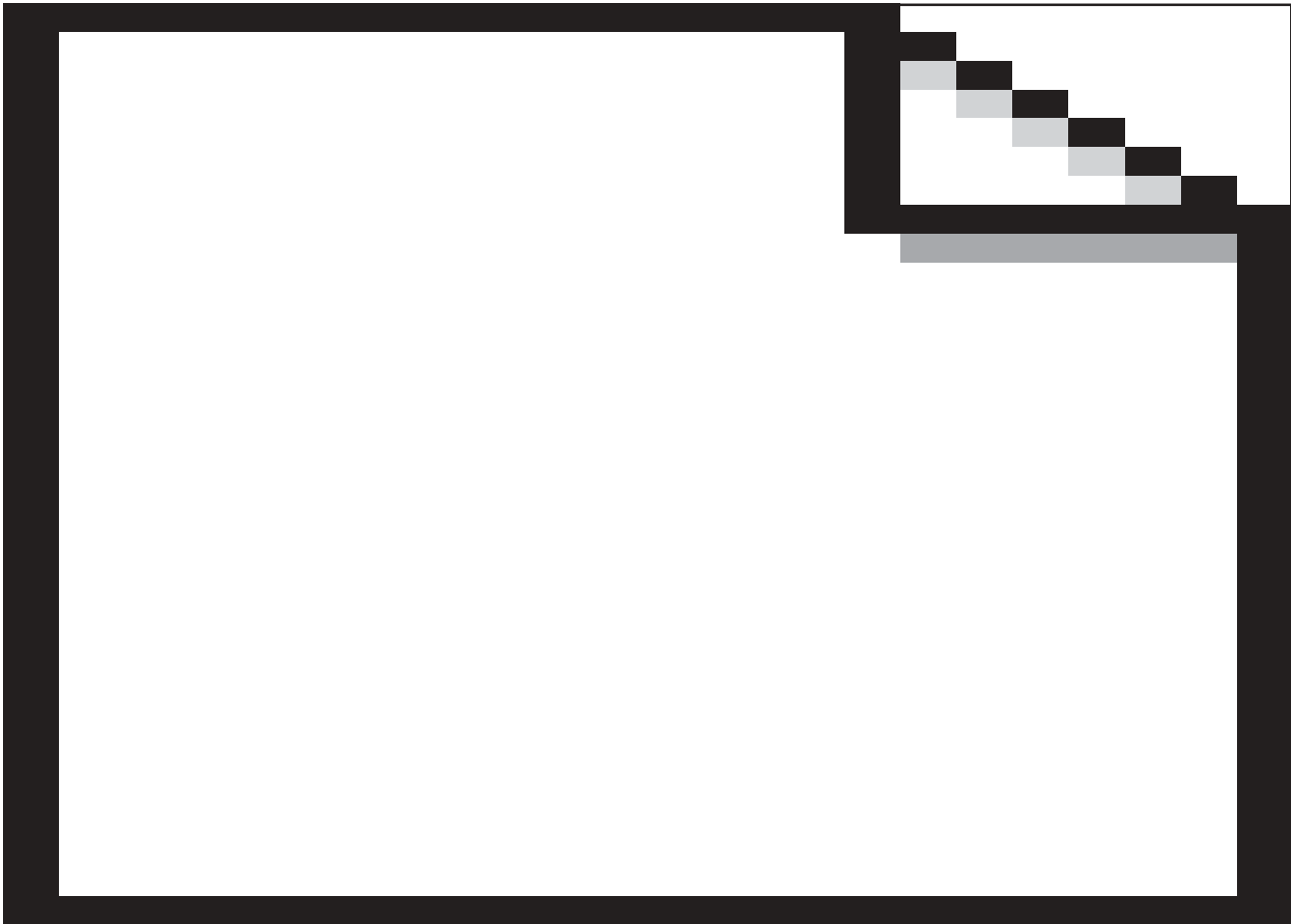


Photo by Cpl. Robert A. Sturkie

A CH-53E Super Stallion from Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 266 (Reinforced) lands amid billowing clouds of dust during a resupply mission for Charlie Company, Battalion Landing Team 1st Bn., 6th Marines in Afghanistan's Oruzgan province during Operation RIO BRAVO. HMM-266 (Rein) and BLT 1/6 are attached to the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable).



Photo by Gunnery Sgt. Keith A. Milks

A seven-ton truck and Humvee from MEU Service Support Group 22, the combat service support element of the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable), plow through a swollen creek on a resupply mission during Operation RIO BRAVO in Afghanistan's Oruzgan province.

PREVIEW from Page 4

season.

This is supposed to be Joey Harrington's year as the Lions incumbent quarterback, but questions still surround the young QB.

Can he throw more touchdowns than interceptions? Will he keep his starting position or eventually loose it to another young gun who appears to be just a good, that being Mike McMahon?

How can they not cause some havoc by getting the ball to two of the best young receivers in the league, last year's number one pick Charles Rogers and this year's pick Roy Williams.

Here's how they **finish: Packers, Vikings, Lions and Bears.**

In the NFC South there were no significant roster changes to last year's NFC Champion **Carolina Panthers.** However, the biggest question surrounding this team is can they do it again. Answer: Probably but not likely.

The Panthers, like **New England** in their 2001 Super Bowl run, discovered last year how to win the close games, something other teams in the league should learn.

Mistake-free football with few turnovers is how it's done but as usual teams will be gunning for them.

They will not be able to sneak through and surprise the NFL this year. **Atlanta** has a healthy Michael Vick back

plus a new coach in Jim Mora Jr.

Vick can carry this team so far but not to the promise land by himself.

He needs a good supporting cast, something the Falcons have lacked for years.

Tampa Bay no longer has Warren Sapp, who has anchored the defense for the past 10 years, nor John Lynch who has been with the team just as long. Coach John Gruden seems to think that the Bucs will be just fine with their replacements.

Gone is Keyshaun Johnson, in comes one-time Raider Tim Brown.

Brown was brought in because Keenan McCardell felt he was underpaid and wants more money and until he gets it he's a holdout.

I Almost forgot the **New Orleans Saints.**

All I have to say about the Saints is this; with the offensive firepower this team has as well as a tough defense, this is Jim Haslett last chance to do something or the Saints organization and fans can start looking for a new coach.

Going out on a limb the NFC South will **finish like this: Panthers, Buccaneers, Falcons, and Saints.**

Capping off the regular season predictions is an evaluation of the NFC West.

Right away I can tell you that the order of finish will go like this: **Rams,**

Seahawks, 49ers and bringing up the rear as usual is the **Arizona Cardinals.**

The **Rams** have unloaded Curt Warner and now look to Marc Bulger to run the team.

Last year Bulger performed admirably but was still prone to mistakes during critical times in a game.

How the Rams managed to make it to the playoffs before faltering sooner is beyond me.

This year if the Rams can walk through the NFC West without stumbling they're a sure bet to make a run in the playoffs.

What's the payoff for going 10-6 and winding up in the playoffs?

A tougher schedule the following year of course.

Seattle has a pretty tough schedule lined up for this season and QB Matt Hasselbeck has his work cut out for him to repeat last year's success.

The Seahawks have on their schedule Super Bowl Champion **New England** and the runner-up **Carolina Panthers,** add the Rams, Vikings and Tampa Bay in the mix and all you can do as a fan is hope for the best.

The **San Francisco 49ers** have slowly taken the same road as other past dynasties; the road of mediocrity, like the Redskins and Cowboys for example.

Each team had its Super Bowl victories during the 80s and 90s but

each year since the 49ers like the other two have gone nowhere but down in the standings.

Gone is the Garcia to T.O. touch-down play; gone is the offense that most teams feared at one time.

All fans can hope for this year is that one or several of the other NFC teams slip enough to let them in the playoff picture.

When the Bidwill family hired former Vikings Coach Dennis Green to become the Arizona Cardinals head coach their hope is that Green can do the same thing with the Cards that he did with the Vikings – just win.

The Cardinals must be jinxed or something, like the Saints. No coach that I can remember has been able to make that team a winner.

However, I will salute Green if he manages to pull off a winning season in his first year.

But alas, the Cardinals will be in the same position at the end of the season as they have always been, at the bottom of the standings.

So who will represent the NFC in this year's **Super Bowl?**

My pick is **Philadelphia** because this is it before they become known as the “Over the Hill Gang.”

Next week we'll take a look at how the American Football Conference will stack up for the season.





By Jim Gaines
MCCS Publicity

Three sales ongoing at MCX

Beat The Heat Sale: Cool down by taking advantage of our mid-month special on selected beverages. Look for the "Ice Cool Blue" balloons and save 10 to 20 percent. Sale runs Wednesday through Aug. 25.

Beat The Monday Blues Sale: Turn Monday into your favorite day to shop! Look for the "Happy Face" balloons for Super Savings on a wide assortment of selected items every Monday in August.

Always available at your MCX:

Check Cashing \$200 max for personal checks! \$50 max for two-party checks! Coffee Club: buy 5 cups get 1 free! Fountain Club: buy 5 get 1 free! Dry Cleaning at discount prices! Special Orders. Video/DVD Rentals!

Teleflora! Western Union Money Orders! Storage Space Rentals! Super

Star Student Program! Your MCX - Super Seven Store, is open Mondays through Fridays from 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, call 256-8974.

Club activities

At the Oasis Club this week: Tonight is Social Hour starting at 4 p.m. Tomorrow is TGIFriday starting at 6 p.m. Tuesday is Burn Your Own Steak Night, starting at 5 p.m. Wednesday is Movie Night starting at 6:30 p.m.

At the Enlisted Club this week: Monday is darts, pool and TV. Tuesday is Karaoke Night starting at 6 p.m. Wednesday features Midweek Relaxation Hour from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday is darts, pool and TV. Friday is TGIFriday Night. Saturdays and Sundays are Bar and Grill Nights.

Special next week: Thursday - Bring your Boss Night at 5 p.m.

For more information, call 577-6418.

Free Movies in the park

Free movies every Wednesday at the Enlisted Club on the patio. Bring your own chairs, blanket and picnic dinner and take in a movie.

Wednesday's movie is "50 First Dates." The film is rated PG13. The length of the film is 1 hour. 39 minutes. Movies begin at 8 p.m. and are shown inside the Enlisted Club in inclement weather.

For more information, call 577-6817.

Family Swimming Pool Closure

Enjoy the Family Pool this month, it will close Labor Day for the season.

Tuesdays through Fridays 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (lap swimming). Tuesdays through Fridays 1 to 7 p.m., recreational swimming.

Saturdays and Sundays, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., recreational swimming Pool is closed Mondays.

The Family Pool is open to all active duty ranks, reserve forces, retired military personnel and DOD civilians employed at MCLB.

Family members and guests are welcome when accompanied by the sponsor/employee. All ID holders may bring one guest.

Children under 11 years old must be accompanied by a parent or guard-

ian of at least 18 years of age. Base employees must be present with family members.

For more information, call 577-6971.

Racquetball Courts

The Base Gym has two racquetball courts available for you to lose some of those unwanted pounds or improve your game. The courts are inside the Base Gym and are open Mondays through Fridays from 5 a.m. to 8:45 p.m. Open Saturdays and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

For more information, call 577-6971.

Therapeutic Massage

Work out then treat yourself to a massage.

Good for circulation or sports muscle strengthening. Very convenient at the Base Gym.

Wednesday appointments available from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. The fee is \$40 per hour.

Please contact Linda Harper, RN, MSN at 760-257-1207.

Aerobic classes

Stephanie Jeffery's Aerobics Classes are available Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Base Gym. Get in shape and have fun. Only \$20 per month or \$2 per session. For more information, call 577-6971.

Going away for the week-end?

Save on hotel vouchers! Be sure to check with ITT - average savings is 10 to 25 percent.

ITT is open Mondays through Fridays, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Tickets are available after hours and weekends at the Bowling Center. Call 577-6541 for more information.

A great time for a picnic

Have a picnic!

It's perfect weather. Lots of fun for your group or organization.

Make your reservations now for the MCLB Barstow Beer Garden or Obregon Park.

Volleyballs, horseshoes, softballs, bats and gloves are available to make your picnic complete.

Tell us what you need, where you want your picnic and let us help you plan a fun event.

Call Semper Fit and get your picnic plans underway.

For more information, call 577-6971.

School Age Care

Available for children 5 through 12 years of age.

For more details call SAC at 577-6499 or CY&TP at 577-6287.

Available to all Active Duty, Retirees, DOD employees and MCLB personnel.

1990 CADILLAC SEVILLE: Maroon, A/C, power steering/windows, power door locks, C/C, AM/FM cassette stereo, dual power seats, ABS brakes, new tires, 131k miles, V8, leather interior, asking \$2,999. OBO. Call (909) 544-3249.

1985 BUICK: Century. Call 252-8034 or 252-0613.

MOTORCYCLES: 2003 Yamaha V-star classic, 7k miles, many dealer installed extras, chrome, etc. below bluebook at \$5,400. Call 254-2295
Lv msg.

MISCELLANEOUS: 1978 Shasta Travel Trailer, 24ft., good condition, new ties, new tanks air condition, refrig/stove, full bath, \$2,500. firm. Call 256-9329 AWH.

MISCELLANEOUS: Entertainment Center, black wood with gold trim, \$75. Call 951-7281.

MISCELLANEOUS: Small utility trailer, \$200. Call 252-7198.

MISCELLANEOUS: Men's suits, 46 long, xlt cond, \$50. each Call 252-7198.

MISCELLANEOUS: Stadium cushions, Barstow High Aztec design, 75 cents each; garage work station, (red & black) 4 drawers, 1 cabinet, vice grip attached at table top, \$50.; men's work t-shirts X-lrg, 50 cents each; Tether ball and sturdy pole, \$5.; Road Master bike, 15 speed, purple and chrome, \$40; Brother typewriter, needs adjustment \$5. Call 252-1160

MISCELLANEOUS: Casio travel piano keyboard, 13", features include, multipliable rhythm accompaniment, record mode, violin, flute, or piano tones, \$25; Plastic patio chairs (green& white), 20 count, \$2. each; inflatable family pool, 120" wide, 3 ring deep, \$20.; waist exercise wheel, \$5. Call 252-1160

MISCELLANEOUS: Child's/teenager oak bedroom set, complete with pier wall unit, twin bed, dresser with mirror and computer desk, \$55 OBO. Call 252-2850.

MISCELLANEOUS: Flexsteel recliner, couch and chair, xlt. cond, suitable for family room and rental. Call 256-6955.

MISCELLANEOUS: Patio chairs (stackable plastic) green, blue and white, \$1.0 each, total of 8 chairs; garage work station with vice, black and red, has 5 drawers and wooden tabletop \$50; tether ball and pole, \$5; several twin bedding items \$1; basketball and baseball travel games \$3. each; football and baseball Nike cleats, \$5. each; excelsior nursing state board manuals \$100. Call 252-1160.

MISCELLANEOUS: Dog igloo for medium dogs, like new \$50. Call 267-0255, Lv msg

THANK YOU: I would like to thank each and every person who generously donated leave to my son Marcelino Aviles during his hospitalization. I just wish I could thank the people at Pendleton as well as Hawaii who also donated leave. Words cannot express the gratitude my wife and I feel toward all of you. May God bless you all. Pablo and Liz Aviles.

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MISCELLANEOUS: Flexsteel recliner, couch and chair, xlt. cond, suitable for family room and rental. Call 256-6955.

MISCELLANEOUS: Your dog will LOVE this Dog igloo for medium dogs, Cute! Needs new home, TLC. "Like" new \$50. Call 267-0255, Lv msg.

